

**FCC Form 481 - Carrier Annual Reporting  
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481  
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819  
July 2018

<010> Study Area Code	379015
<015> Study Area Name	THREE RIVER COMMUNICATIONS, LLC
<020> Program Year	2020
<030> Contact Name: Person USAC should contact with questions about this data	Judy Christiansen
<035> Contact Telephone Number: Number of the person identified in data line <030>	4028181322 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address: Email of the person identified in data line <030>	jchristiansen@consortiaconsulting.com
Form Type	54.313 and 54.422

**(600) Functionality in Emergency Situations  
Data Collection Form**FCC Form 481  
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<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jchristiansen@consertiaconsulting.com
<600> Certify compliance regarding ability to function in emergency situations	Yes
<610> Descriptive document for Functionality in Emergency Situations	379015neEmergencyCertification610.pdf



<b>(900) Tribal Lands Reporting Data Collection Form</b>	<b>FCC Form 481</b> <b>OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819</b> <b>July 2018</b>
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<b>&lt;039&gt; Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line &lt;030&gt;</b>	jchristiansen@consortiaconsulting.com

**<900> Does the filing entity offer tribal land services? (Y/N)** No

**<910> Tribal Land(s) on which ETC Serves**

**<920> Tribal Government Engagement Obligation**

Name of Attached Document

If your company serves Tribal lands, please select (Yes, No, NA) for each these boxes to confirm the status described on the attached PDF, on line 920, demonstrates coordination with the Tribal government pursuant to § 54.313(a)(5) includes:

- <921> Needs assessment and deployment planning with a focus on Tribal community anchor institutions.**
- <922> Feasibility and sustainability planning;**
- <923> Marketing services in a culturally sensitive manner;**
- <924> Compliance with Rights of way processes**
- <925> Compliance with Land Use permitting requirements**
- <926> Compliance with Facilities Siting rules**
- <927> Compliance with Environmental Review processes**
- <928> Compliance with Cultural Preservation review processes**
- <929> Compliance with Tribal Business and Licensing requirements.**

Select Yes or No or Not Applicable

**(1000) Voice and Broadband Service Rate Comparability Data Collection Form** FCC Form 481  
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<1000> Voice services rate comparability certification Yes

<1010> Attach detailed description for voice services rate comparability compliance

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Attached Document

<1020> Broadband comparability certification

<1030> Attach detailed description for broadband comparability compliance

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Attached Document

<b>(1100) No Terrestrial Backhaul Reporting Data Collection Form</b>	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2018
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<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jchristiansen@consortiaconsulting.com

<1100> Certify whether terrestrial backhaul options exist (Y/N)

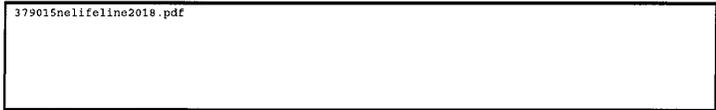
<1130> Please select the appropriate response (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to confirm the reporting carrier offers broadband service of at least 1 Mbps downstream and 256 kbps upstream within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(g).

<1140> Alaska Plan rate-of-return certification (yes, no, or not applicable) of compliance with approved performance plan.

<b>(1200) Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers</b> Lifeline Data Collection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986 / OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2018
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<1210> Terms & Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Plans



Name of Attached Document

<1220> Link to Public Website

HTTP

"Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 1210, or the website listed, on line 1220, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.422(a)(2) annual reporting for ETCs receiving low-income support, carriers must annually report:

- <1221> Information describing the terms and conditions of any voice telephony service plans offered to Lifeline subscribers,
- <1222> Details on the number of minutes provided as part of the plan,
- <1223> Additional charges for toll calls, and rates for each such plan.

Certification - Agent / Carrier Data Collection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2018
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**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF AN AGENT IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE CARRIER'S BEHALF:**

Certification of Officer to Authorize an Agent to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
I certify that (Name of Agent) <u>Consortia Consulting</u> is authorized to submit the information reported on behalf of the reporting carrier. I also certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual data reporting requirements provided to the authorized agent; and, to the best of my knowledge, the reports and data provided to the authorized agent is accurate.	
Name of Authorized Agent:	<u>Consortia Consulting</u>
Name of Reporting Carrier:	<u>THREE RIVER COMMUNICATIONS, LLC</u>
Signature of Authorized Officer:	<u>CERTIFIED ONLINE</u> Date: <u>06/24/2019</u>
Printed name of Authorized Officer:	<u>Linda Sextro</u>
Title or position of Authorized Officer:	<u>Accounting Manager</u>
Telephone number of Authorized Officer:	<u>4025692666 ext.</u>
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	<u>379015</u> Filing Due Date for this form: <u>07/01/2019</u>
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE AUTHORIZED AGENT:**

Certification of Agent Authorized to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
I, as agent for the reporting carrier, certify that I am authorized to submit the annual reports for universal service support recipients on behalf of the reporting carrier; I have provided the data reported herein based on data provided by the reporting carrier; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported herein is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier:	<u>THREE RIVER COMMUNICATIONS, LLC</u>
Name of Authorized Agent Firm:	<u>Consortia Consulting</u>
Signature of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	<u>CERTIFIED ONLINE</u> Date: <u>06/24/2019</u>
Name of Authorized Agent Employee:	<u>Judy Christiansen</u>
Title or position of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent	<u>Consultant</u>
Telephone number of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	<u>4028181322 ext.</u>
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	<u>379015</u> Filing Due Date for this form: <u>07/01/2019</u>
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

## Attachments

**Three River Communications, LLC**  
Ability to Remain Functional in Emergency Situations  
FCC Form 481 – Line 610

1. Three River Communications (TRC) has been providing high quality service in Nebraska since 2004. This includes operating in adverse conditions including blizzards, ice storms, thunderstorms, tornadoes and during prolonged power outages. TRC's management team, plant supervisors, plant technicians and customer service representatives have the training, experience and equipment necessary to respond to, manage and operate in emergency situations.
  
2. Three River Communications follows applicable Rural Utilities Service (RUS) Telecommunications program practices and guidelines including the Telecommunications Engineering and Construction Manual (TE&CM) and other industry standards available to small telecommunications carriers. Three River Communications also meets the requirements of the Nebraska Public Service Commission (NPSC) as applied to local exchange service.
  
3. Back-Up Power
  - 3.1. Central Office
    - 3.1.1. Three River Communications maintains storage batteries designed to provide a minimum reserve capacity consistent with RUS TE&CM 1751E-302, Power Requirements for Digital Central Office Equipment. 1751E-302 paragraph 2.3.4 recommends a minimum reserve capacity of 8 hours, or 3 hours if the central office is equipped with an emergency standby generator. This is consistent with Title 291, NPSC Telecommunications Rules and Regulations, Chapter 5, paragraph 002.05 Emergency Operations and Power.
  
    - 3.1.2. Three River Communications maintains a dedicated standby generator fueled with a 1000 gallon reserve supply of liquid propane gas (LPG). The standby unit is equipped with an automatic transfer switch so that in the event of an interruption of the commercial electric power lasting more than a few minutes, the standby generator starts automatically and provides electrical power to the central office equipment, air conditioning and building lighting. The automatic transfer switch also exercises the standby unit periodically and an alarm indication is sent if the standby generator does not start so that telecommunications personnel can perform proactive maintenance.

**Three River Communications, LLC**  
Ability to Remain Functional in Emergency Situations  
FCC Form 481 – Line 610

3.2. Remote Equipment Cabinets

3.2.1. Where electronic equipment in cabinets located remotely from the central office, is used to provide service, the cabinets are equipped with batteries designed to operate for a minimum of eight hours without commercial electrical power. In addition, TRC maintains portable AC standby generators for use in the event of prolonged commercial power interruptions and the cabinets are equipped with external receptacles to facilitate connection to portable generators.

4. Rerouting Traffic around Damaged Facilities

4.1. In the event of damage to cable facilities owned by Three River Communications, our maintenance personnel would restore service using emergency splice kits kept on hand for these types of service disruptions. If the damaged facilities are not owned by Three River Communications we would work with the carrier directly affected to identify the source of disruption and the estimated amount of time before service is restored.

4.2. In the event of an extended outage, contact would be made with another service provider which has a separate, physical cable connection with TRC to provision temporary alternate routes supporting originating and terminating toll calls. Emphasis would first be placed on establishing connections to nearby PSAP, law-enforcement and emergency services.

5. Managing Traffic Spikes

5.1. Three River Communications meets Title 291, NPSC Telecommunications Rules and Regulations, Chapter 5, paragraph 002.12 Dial Service Objectives for sufficient central office capacity and equipment during the "...average busy hour-busy season..."

5.2. Three River Communications follows applicable RUS practices 522 and 322 when specifying, administrating, and assigning facilities within its control (as opposed to facilities ordered by connecting interexchange carriers).

**Three River Communications, LLC**  
Ability to Remain Functional in Emergency Situations  
FCC Form 481 – Line 610

- 5.3. The Ainsworth central office switch is a Genband DMS-10 operating at the 602.20 software release. The Ainsworth DMS-10 is equipped with 875 access lines. The DMS-10 is designed to support up to 12,000 access lines by adding line and trunk interface equipment and network equipment only. In its current configuration the Ainsworth DMS-10 has additional capacity over and above the minimums specified to meet NPSC and RUS guidelines.
- 5.4. When traffic volumes greatly exceed specified criteria and additional capacity of the switch or connecting facilities, the DMS-10 continues to process calls but with potentially longer waiting times for dial tone, higher post-dialing delays and a higher probability of callers receiving all trunks busy indications (fast busy) and having to redial calls. Depending on the magnitude and duration of extreme peak demand, TRC would examine alternatives such as provisioning additional facilities and work with connecting carriers to expedite additional capacity.

**Three River Communications, LLC**  
**Lifeline Terms and Conditions**

Three River Communications, LLC offers Lifeline program-supported service to qualified low-income residential consumers. The federal Lifeline and The Nebraska Telephone Assistance Program (NTAP) assistance reduces the cost of basic, monthly local telephone service by \$3.50. The federal Lifeline program reduces costs of telephone or broadband internet access service (BIAS) by \$9.25. Eligible consumers can receive up to \$12.75 per month in discounts. In addition, the Federal Universal Service Charge is not assessed to consumers participating in the programs. Toll Blocking prevents the placement of all long distance calls for which a subscriber would be charged. Toll blocking is available to eligible consumers at no cost. In addition, by choosing this option, consumers are usually not charged a deposit.

The Nebraska Public Service Commission administers NTAP and the federal Lifeline program.

**NTAP Eligibility Information**

**Program Based Eligibility**

To qualify for services, subscribers must either have an income that is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, or the subscriber, one or more of the subscriber's dependents, or the subscriber's household must receive benefits from one of the following assistance programs:

- Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)
- Medicaid
- Children's Health Insurance Program/Kids Connection (SAM, MAC or EMAC)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); (formerly the Food Stamps Program)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Veteran's Pension and Survivor Benefit

To receive an application, contact your local *Health and Human Services* agency caseworker or the *Nebraska Public Service Commission*, 1200 N Street, Suite 300, PO Box 94927, Lincoln, NE 68508-4927, Phone: 402-471-3101, Toll Free: 1-800-526-0017 or <https://psc.nebraska.gov/telecommunications/nebraska-telephone-assistance-programlifeline>

Applicants must present documentation demonstrating eligibility either through participation in one of the qualifying federal assistance programs or through income-based means.

Acceptable documentation of program-based eligibility includes: current or prior year's statement of benefits from a qualifying state, federal or Tribal program; notice letter of participation in a qualifying state, federal or Tribal program; program participation documents; or another official document evidencing the consumer's participation in a qualifying state, federal or Tribal program.

**Income Based Eligibility**

In addition, consumers are eligible if their household income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines.

2019 Federal Poverty Guidelines – 135%

Household Size	48 Contiguous States and D.C.	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$16,862	\$21,060	\$19,413
2	\$22,829	\$28,526	\$26,271
3	\$28,796	\$35,991	\$33,129
4	\$34,763	\$43,457	\$39,987
5	\$40,730	\$50,922	\$46,845
6	\$46,697	\$58,388	\$53,703
7	\$52,664	\$65,853	\$60,561
8	\$58,631	\$73,319	\$67,419
For each add' l person, add	\$5,967	\$7,466	\$6,858

Acceptable documentation of income eligibility includes: prior year’s state, federal or Tribal tax return; current income statement from an employer or paycheck stub; social security statement of benefits; Veterans Administration statement of benefits; retirement/pension statement of benefits; unemployment/workmen’s compensation statement of benefits; federal or Tribal notice of letter participating in General Assistance; or a divorce decree or child support award or other official document containing income information.

**Program Service**

Three River Communications’ Voice NTAP and federal Lifeline Program services include unlimited local minutes-of-use within the toll-free calling area. Three River Communications’ Voice NTAP and federal Lifeline Program does not include any free minutes-of-use for toll. Toll is billed at the standard toll rate depending on which interexchange carrier the consumer subscribes to for toll service. As part of the service, Toll blocking is available to eligible consumers at no cost.

BIAS minimum speed and usage allowance standards are required for the service to qualify.

**Rates**

Subscribers may receive the NTAP and federal Lifeline Program credit on any type or grade of local service, including bundled services that are normally offered by Three River Communications, LLC. The federal Lifeline program credit is also available on BIAS. Advertised rates do not include any applicable taxes or surcharges.

**Recertification of NTAP Eligibility**

Service recipients are required to recertify their eligibility annually. Failure to properly recertify a recipient’s continued eligibility for service will result in termination of the service recipient’s monthly service discount and de-enrollment from service.

**Additional NTAP Program Information**

NTAP and the federal Lifeline program are limited to one benefit per household. A household is defined as an individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. NTAP and the federal Lifeline Program are government benefit programs, and consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program.